

C6 Please replace the present claims 1-125 with the following new claims 126-186

1 126. (new) A system for supporting a collaborative activity,
2 the system comprising:
3 a processor which has access to a database wherein representations of information
4 related to the activity are related to representations of domains which provide a context
5 for the activity; and
6 an interface to the system for one or more users thereof, the interface being
7 provided by the processor and the interface permitting the users to define a set of
8 arbitrary domains, relate the information to the domains, and perceive how the
9 information has been related to the domains.

27 1 127. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:
3 the representations of the information includes links to entities that are external to
4 the database; and
5 the interface permits the user to associate a link with a domain, to perceive the
6 link, and to access the entity specified by the link.

1 128. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 127
2 wherein:
3 the links include links to Web pages.

1 129. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 127
2 wherein:
3 the links include links to Web sites.

1 130. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 127
2 wherein:
3 the links include links to applications, the applications being executable via the
4 links thereto.

1 131. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the representations of the information includes a representation of a discussion
4 among users; and

5 the interface permits the users to associate a representation of a discussion with a
6 domain, to perceive the association, and to access the discussion.

1 132. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the database gives different ones among the users access to different ones of the
4 representations of the information; and

5 the interface permits a user who is privileged thereto to modify a user's access to
6 the representations of the information and to perceive the access which the user has to the
7 information.

1 133. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the interface permits users to modify the information;

4 the database responds to a modification of the information by producing a
5 representation of a log of the modification; and

6 the interface further permits the users to perceive the log.

1 134. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the interface permits users to modify the information;

4 the database responds to a modification by a first user of the information by
5 producing a representation of alert information for a second user of the information; and

6 the interface further permits the second user to perceive the alert information.

1 135. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 134
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the second user to specify the modification to which
4 the database responds by producing the representation of the alert information.

1 **136. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to relate the domains to each other and to
4 perceive how the domains have been related to each other.

1 **137. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 136
2 wherein:

3 the users relate the domains to each other hierarchically.

1 **138. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the activity is performed by an organization; and
4 the domains provide an organizational context for the activity.

1 **139. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 126
2 wherein:

3 the representations of the information includes representations of tasks belonging
4 to the activity.

1 **140. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 139
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to relate the tasks to each other and to
4 perceive how the tasks have been related to each other.

1 **141. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 140
2 wherein:

3 the users relate the tasks to each other hierarchically.

1 **142. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 140
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to relate the domains to each other and to
4 perceive how the domains relate to each other, how the tasks relate to the domains, and
5 how the tasks belonging to a domain relate to each other.

1 **143. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 142
2 wherein:

3 the users relate the tasks to each other hierarchically and the domains to each
4 other hierarchically; and

5 the interface permits the user to see how the tasks relate to the hierarchy of
6 domains and how the tasks belonging to a domain relate hierarchically to each other.

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1 **144. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 139
2 wherein:

3 the representations of the information further includes representations of per-task
4 information that is related to a task in the database; and

5 the interface permits the users to associate per-task information with the task and
6 to perceive the associated per-task information.

1 **145. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information includes ordered information; and

4 the interface permits the users to perceive the tasks as ordered by the ordered
5 information.

1 **146. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information includes information which has a predefined set of
4 values; and

5 the interface permits the users to select a value from the predefined set thereof and
6 to perceive those tasks for which the information has the selected value.

1 **147. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a priority for the task; and
4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a priority and to perceive the
5 task's priority.

1 **148. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to perceive the tasks as ordered by priority.

1 **149. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a status for the task; and
4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a status and to perceive the status
5 of the task.

1 **150. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a risk for the task; and
4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a risk and to perceive the risk for
5 the task.

1 **151. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a due date for the task; and
4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a due date and to perceive the due
5 date for the task.

1 **152. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 151
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to perceive the tasks as ordered by due date.

1 **153. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a stage for the task; and

4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a stage and to perceive the stage
5 for the task.

1 **154. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include an owner of the task; and

4 the interface permits the users to assign the task an owner and perceive the owner
5 for the task.

1 **155. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a cost for the task; and

4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a cost and to perceive the cost for
5 the task.

1 **156. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 155
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to perceive the tasks as ordered by cost.

1 **157. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information may include a return for the task; and

4 the interface permits the users to assign the task a return and to perceive the return
5 for the task.

1 **158. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 157
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the users to perceive the tasks as ordered by return.

1 **159. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information includes links to entities that are external to the database;

4 and

5 the interface permits the user to associate a link with a task, to perceive the link,
6 and to access the entity specified by the link.

1 **160. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 159
2 wherein:

3 the links include links to Web pages.

1 **161. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 159
2 wherein:

3 the links include links to Web sites.

1 **162. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 159
2 wherein:

3 the links include links to applications, the applications being executable via the
4 links thereto.

1 **163. (new)** The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the per-task information includes a discussion among users; and

4 the interface permits the users to associate a discussion with a task, to perceive the
5 association, and to access the discussion.

1 164. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the database gives different ones among the users access to different ones of the
4 representations of the per-task information; and

5 the interface permits a user who is privileged thereto to modify a user's access to
6 the per-task information and to perceive the access which the user has to the per-task
7 information.

1 165. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the interface permits users to modify the per-task information;

4 the database responds to a modification of the per-task information by producing
5 a log of the modification; and

6 the interface further permits the users to perceive the log.

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1 166. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the interface permits users to modify the per-task information;

4 the database responds to a modification by a first user of the per-task information
5 by producing alert information for a second user of the per-task information; and

6 the interface further permits the second user to perceive the alert information.

1 167. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 166
2 wherein:

3 the interface further permits the second user to specify the modification to which
4 the database responds by producing the representation of the alert information.

1 168. (new) The system for supporting a collaborative activity set forth in claim 144
2 wherein:

3 the tasks include goals;

4 the interface permits users to indicate extents to which the goal has been reached;

5 the per-task information for the goal includes an aggregated extent made from the
6 indicated extents; and
7 the interface permits users to perceive the aggregated extent for the goal.

1 **169. (new)** A method of supporting a collaborative activity in a system which includes a
2 processor, the processor having access to a database containing representations of items
3 of information related to the activity and producing an interface for one or more users of
4 the system and
5 the method comprising the steps of:

6 receiving a definition of a domain which provides a context for the activity in the
7 system from a user via the interface and responding thereto by producing a representation
8 of the domain in the database;

9 receiving an indication of a relationship between the domain and an item of
10 information from a user via the interface and responding thereto by relating the
11 representation of the domain to the representation of the item of information; and

12 receiving an indication that the relationship between the domain and the item of
13 information is to be shown in the interface in the system from a user via the interface and
14 responding thereto by showing the relationship indicated in the database in the interface.

1 **170. (new)** The method set forth in claim 169 further comprising the step of:

2 receiving a definition of an item of information from the user via the interface and
3 responding thereto by producing a representation of the item of information in the
4 database.

1 **171. (new)** The method set forth in claim 170 wherein:

2 the step of receiving a definition of an item of information includes the step of
3 receiving an indication of a relationship between the domain and the defined item of
4 information.

1 **172. (new)** The method set forth in claim 169 wherein

2 the representations of information related to the activity include representations of
3 tasks and the method further includes the step of:

4 receiving a definition of a task from a user via the interface and responding
5 thereto by producing a representation of the task in the database.

1 **173. (new)** The method set forth in claim 172 wherein:

2 when the system receives a definition of a task,
3 in the step of receiving an indication of a relationship between the domain and
4 information having a representation in the database, the indication may indicate a
5 relationship between the domain and the task.

1 **174. (new)** The method set forth in claim 173 wherein:

2 when the database has representations of tasks and domains,
3 in the step of receiving an indication that the relationship between the domain and
4 the information is to be shown, the indication may indicate that the relationships between
5 the tasks and the domains are to be shown.

1 **175. (new)** The method set forth in claim 172 wherein

2 in the step of receiving a definition of a task, the definition specifies a relationship
3 between the task and an existing task and the system responds thereto by relating the
4 representation of the task to the representation of the existing task and

5 the method further comprises the step of:

6 receiving an indication that the relationship between the task and the existing task
7 be shown in the interface in the system from a user via the interface; and responding
8 thereto by showing the relationship between the task and the existing task indicated in the
9 database in the interface.

1 **176. (new)** The method set forth in claim 172 wherein:

2 in the step of receiving a definition of a task, the definition specifies a relationship
3 between the task and an existing task and the system responds thereto by relating the
4 representation of the task to the representation of the existing task;

5 in the step of receiving a definition of a domain, the definition specifies a
6 relationship between the domain and an existing domain and the system responds thereto
7 by relating the representation of the domain to the representation of the existing domain;
8 and

9 in the step of receiving the indication that the relationship between the domain
10 and the information is to be shown, the indication may indicate that the relationships
11 between the domains and the relationships between the tasks are to be shown.

1 **177. (new)** The method set forth in claim 169 wherein:

2 in the step of receiving a definition of a domain, the definition specifies a
3 relationship between the domain and an existing domain and the system responds thereto
4 by relating the representation of the domain to the representation of the existing domain;
5 and

6 in the step of receiving the indication that the relationship between the domain
7 and the information is to be shown, the system responds thereto by also showing the
8 relationship between domains indicated in the database.

1 **178. (new)** A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor
3 performs a method of supporting a collaborative activity in a system which includes a
4 processor, the processor having access to a database containing representations of items
5 of information related to the activity and producing an interface for one or more users of
6 the system and

7 the method comprising the steps of:

8 receiving a definition of a domain which provides a context for the activity in the
9 system from a user via the interface and responding thereto by producing a representation
10 of the domain in the database;

11 receiving an indication of a relationship between the domain and an item of
12 information from a user via the interface and responding thereto by relating the
13 representation of the domain to the representation of the item of information; and

14 receiving an indication that the relationship between the domain and the item of
15 information is to be shown in the interface in the system from a user via the interface and
16 responding thereto by showing the relationship indicated in the database in the interface.

1 **179. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 178 further characterized in that the
2 method further comprises the step of:

3 receiving a definition of an item of information from the user via the interface and
4 responding thereto by producing a representation of the item of information in the
5 database.

1 **180. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 179 further characterized in that:

2 the step of receiving a definition of an item of information includes the step of
3 receiving an indication of a relationship between the domain and the defined item of
4 information.

1 **181. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 178 further characterized in that:

2 the representations of information related to the activity include representations of
3 tasks and the method further includes the step of:

4 receiving a definition of a task from a user via the interface and responding
5 thereto by producing a representation of the task in the database.

1 **182. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 181 further characterized in that:

2 when the system receives a definition of a task, in the step of receiving an
3 indication of a relationship between the domain and information having a representation
4 in the database, the indication may indicate a relationship between the domain and the
5 task.

1 **183. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 182 further characterized in that:

2 when the database has representations of tasks and domains, in the step of
3 receiving an indication that the relationship between the domain and the information is to

4 be shown, the indication may indicate that the relationships between the tasks and the
5 domains are to be shown.

1 **184. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 181 further characterized in that:
2 in the step of receiving a definition of a task, the definition specifies a relationship
3 between the task and an existing task and the system responds thereto by relating the
4 representation of the task to the representation of the existing task and
5 the method further comprises the step of:
6 receiving an indication that the relationship between the task and the existing task
7 be shown in the interface in the system from a user via the interface; and responding
8 thereto by showing the relationship between the task and the existing task indicated in the
9 database in the interface.

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1 **185. (new)** The data storage device set forth in claim 181 further characterized in that:
2 in the step of receiving a definition of a task, the definition specifies a relationship
3 between the task and an existing task and the system responds thereto by relating the
4 representation of the task to the representation of the existing task;
5 in the step of receiving a definition of a domain, the definition specifies a
6 relationship between the domain and an existing domain and the system responds thereto
7 by relating the representation of the domain to the representation of the existing domain;
8 and
9 in the step of receiving the indication that the relationship between the domain
10 and the information is to be shown, the indication may indicate that the relationships
11 between the domains and the relationships between the tasks are to be shown.

1 **186. (new)** A data storage device set forth in claim 178 further characterized in that:
2 in the step of receiving a definition of a domain, the definition specifies a
3 relationship between the domain and an existing domain and the system responds thereto
4 by relating the representation of the domain to the representation of the existing domain;
5 and